WINNER OF THE 2005 MARSHALL HOPE AWARD FOR BEST DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER IN THE SUVCW!!!

G.A.R.

1866

THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

THE CLARION CALL

Newsletter of the Department of Massachusetts

VOLUME No. 8 ISSUE No. 2 October 2009

S.U.V.C.W.

1881

128th National Encampment Held in Kentucky

Louisville, KY: One of New England's own was elected to the highest office in the S.U.V.C.W., the Department of Massachusetts won a National award, and our newest camp received a National recognition at the 2009 National Encampment.

Dept. of Massachusetts Delegates at the 128th National Encampment in Louisville, KY. (Left to Right: Robert Knight, PDC; Steve Twining, PCC; Conley Ford, CC; Perley Mellor, PDC; Timothy Callahan, CC; Charles Tucker, Edward Norris, PCC, Kevin Tucker, DC; William Ryerson, PDC, John Bates, PDC)

Brother Leo Kennedy, from the Department of Rhode Island was elected Commander-in-Chief at the 128th National Encampment. He was the first New Englander elected to head the organization since Clark Mellor, (PDC Perley Mellor's father) who was elected 21 years ago. We all congratulate Brother Kennedy and look forward to assisting him in any way possible, to make his tenure a successful one.

Department Commander Kevin Tucker was honored to accept the Augustus P. Davis – Conrad Linder Award for the Department with the most new Members. We signed up 74 new Members this past year, thanks in no small part to Brother Conley Ford and the Members of the newly established Camp 3188 in Scituate. That Camp alone signed up almost half of the new Members coming in to the Department. This, along with the great effort everyone has made in bringing in new Members, resulted in 74 new Members for the Department last year.

Camp 3188 Commander Conley Ford accepted the Joseph S. Rippey Award on behalf of the Camp from the outgoing National Commander-in-Chief David Medert. The Award is given to the most outstanding new Camp in the country, and was well deserved for the hard work all the Brothers in Situate did in organizing Camp 3188. The Camp held its first meeting with about 10 brothers on September 18, 2008, after three months of recruiting. Today, the Camp boasts as many as 37 Members, with more on the way.

Congratulations to all the Brothers in Camp 3188, and to all Brothers in the Department for an excellent job of recruiting this past year. With everyone's efforts, we can surpass last year's totals and win the Davis-Linder award again this coming year. Let's get to work!

Contact the Editor at: THE CLARION CALL, 20 Howland Terrace, Worcester, MA 01602 Email: williegrout25@verizon.net

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW ENGLAND STATES WELL REPRESENTED IN NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

Commander-in-Chief Leo Kennedy is joined by the following elected National officers: SVCinC James Hanby, PDC; JVCinC Brad Schall, PDC; National Treasurer Rich Orr, PCinC; National Secretary Don Palmer, PDC; CofA Members Perley Mellor, PDC, Ken Freshley, Tad Campbell, PDC, Bill Vieira, PDC and Bob Petrovic, PDC, National Quartermaster Danny Wheeler, PCinC.

In addition to his elected office as a Member of the Council of Administration, PDC Perley Mellor was appointed as the National Liaison to the Cathedral of the Pines.

Department Commander Kevin Tucker was again appointed as the National Civil War Memorials Officer.

Department Treasurer Ed Norris was appointed National Guide, as well as Chairman of the Battle Flag Preservation Committee

Other appointed officers from New England include National Aide-de-Camp Joseph Hall, Jr. (Dept of RI); National Chief of Staff William C. Vieira, PDC, (Dept of RI); National Graves Registration Officer Bruce D. Frail, (Dept of RI)

New England is also well represented on the various National Committees appointed by CinC Kennedy, as follows:

National Committee on Americanization and Education:
John W. Bates III, PDC, (Dept. of MA)
Robert Bromley, PDC, (Dept of RI)
William C. Vieira, PDC, (Dept of RI)

National Committee on Graves Registration
Franklin Haley, (Dept. of MA)
Stephen Twining, (Dept. of MA)

National Committee on Fraternal Relations
Ellsworth W. Brown, PDC, (Dept. of NH)

National Committee on History
George G. Kane, (Dept. of MA)

National Committee on Grand Army of the Republic Records
John W. Bates III, PDC, (Dept. of MA)
A. Dean Sargent, PCC, Chair, (Dept. of MA)

National Committee on Program and Policy
Daniel Meehan, PDC, (Dept. of NH)
William C. Vieira, PDC, (Dept of RI)

National Committee on *eBay* Surveillance
Daniel Meehan, PDC, Chair, (Dept. of NH)
John Dow, (Dept. of NH)
Lance Robicheau, (Dept. of NH)

National Encampment Credentials Committee
Joseph Hall, (Dept of RI)

National Encampment Registration Study Committee
William T. Ryerson, PDC, (Dept. of MA)
A. Dean Sargent, (Dept. of MA)

Battle Flag Preservation Committee
Ed Norris, Chairman, (Dept. of MA)
Daniel W. Murray, PDC, (Dept. of MA)
Dave Nelson, (Dept. of NH)

Congratulations and "Huzzah!" to all Brothers on their elections and appointments.

AUXILIARY NEWS

- The 2009 National Encampment in Louisville, KY was busy and successful. Our new National President is Nancy Greenwalt Hilton. Our own Diane Mellor is the National President's Personal Aide.
- On September 4, 2009 we lost our Sister, Dr. Thelma Berger. Thelma and her husband Dr. Harvey Berger are the benefactors for the scholarship we award every year, as well as other generous contributions to the Auxiliary. Thelma's devotion to the Order will always be remembered.
- I am happy to report we are very close to having an Auxiliary in Scituate.
- Once again this year, we will be having a joint Department Encampment with the Sons on April 9th &10th, 2010, at the Marlborough Courtyard by Marriott, in Marlborough, MA. More details to follow in the next General Orders.
- Get well wishes to Robin Maples.

In F, C&L
MaryCatherine Knight
Department President

COMMISSIONS FOR DC TUCKER AND C of A MELLOR

At the 128th National Encampment in Louisville, Department Commander Kevin P. Tucker and National Council of Administration Member Perley Mellor, PDC, were among several National Officers commissioned as Kentucky Colonels by Steven L. Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The title Kentucky Colonel originated in 1813. The Kentucky Militia had just returned from a highly successful "War of 1812" campaign that resulted in control of the Northwest being returned to the United States.

When the militia dispersed, Governor Isaac Shelby asked Charles S. Todd, one of his officers in the campaign, to remain in the capitol and serve as an aide-de-camp on the Governor's Staff. Todd was given the rank and grade of Colonel. Early Colonels, such as Colonel Todd, actually served military roles. But, as times changed throughout the1800's, the title became more of an honorary one. The commission is awarded to an individual who displays strength of character, leadership and dedication to the welfare of others.

Over the years, many celebrities have held the title Kentucky Colonel including President Bill Clinton, Bob Hope, Elvis Presley, President George Bush, Harlan Sanders, Jimmy Durante, Lloyd Bridges, Mae West, Muhammad Ali, Norman Schwarzkopf, Omar Bradley, Pope John Paul II, President Ronald Reagan, Roy Rogers, Shirley Temple Black, Tiger Woods, Wayne Newton, and Winston Churchill.

Commander Tucker and PDC Mellor report that they are honored to be associated with these great people and will do their utmost to uphold the traditions and principals of their commissions as Kentucky Colonels.

FRANKS, BEANS AND HISTORY AT LYNN G.A.R. HALL

Department Chaplain Dexter Bishop, (left) and the other attendees enjoying good food and conversation in the World War I Room at the historic G.A.R. Post 5 Hall in Lynn.

General Frederick W. Lander Camp No. 5 held its 2nd annual G.A.R. Franks and Beans Supper on Saturday, October 17th, 2009, at the Grand Army of the Republic Post 5 Hall in Lynn.

The yearly event recreates similar suppers that were put on by Post 5 of the G.A.R. for local veterans. Following this tradition, Camp 5 invited Lynn veterans to join with Members of the SUVCW and Auxiliary, their family and friends, for some home cooked camaraderie.

The old time menu included beef franks, baked beans, coleslaw, brown bread, corn bread, and apple cake, along with a large helping of history, served up in a slide presentation on Civil War forts throughout New England, presented by Camp Commander Paul Kenworthy.

As an added bonus, tours of the amazing Grand Army of the Republic Post 5 Hall were conducted by Camp 5 Members. Those who had not had the opportunity to tour the Lynn G.A.R. Hall before were astonished by the 1,243 photos of Post 5 Members adorning the walls, as well as the hall's original rugs and furnishings, the capstan of the USS Kearsarge (famous for the battle off of Brest, France 1864 with the CSS Alabama) and many other historic artifacts.

All who attended the supper enjoyed a tasty, friendly and interesting evening. The Brothers of General Lander Camp No. 5 hope to see you all for more of the same at next year's event.

SERIES 2009 - 2010
DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 4

CAMP ELECTIONS

Annual Camp Elections are to be held either in October or November, in accordance with the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Article VIII - Election Method, Section 4, and the Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, ARTICLE IV. – Officers, Section 2.

Elected Officers will be Camp Commander, Senior Vice Camp Commander and Junior Vice Camp Commander, three Camp Council Members, Secretary, Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer), Delegates and Alternates to the Department Encampment.

All Camp Commanders must notify me as soon as possible as to the date, time and place of the Camp Installation. Installations must be performed by me or my appointee between November 1st and January 31st, in accordance with the By-laws of the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Article XVII – Installations, Section 1.

The Camp Commander-elect must provide all records, accounts, property lists, and the Certification of Election and Installation Of Camp Officers (Form 22) to me or the appointed Installing Officer, prior to the Installation. All debts to the Department, including per capita payments, must be paid. I or my appointee must examine the books, before proceeding with the installation.

Copies of the Certification of Election and Installation Of Camp Officers (Form 22) can be filled out and downloaded from the National Organization website at http://suvcw.org/ftp/form22.pdf.

By Order of, Kevin P. Tucker, Department Commander Attest: Daniel Murray, Department Secretary

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2009-2010

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YOUNG FILMAKER HONORED FOR REDEDICATION VIDEO

Wakefield, MA Department Commander Kevin Tucker and Eagle Scout Award Officer Timothy Callahan, CC present a Certificate of Achievement on behalf of the Department to Eagle Scout Nathan Fatal. For his Eagle Scout project, Nathan shot and produced a video titled "History and Hope" documenting Camp 104's June 8th 2008 grave rededication ceremony of Pvt. James Averill of Amesbury. The video was shown to students at Amesbury High School. Copies available through Camp 104.

MONSON MONUMENT RECEIVES A LITTLE T.L.C.

Monson, MA: Throughout Massachusetts some Civil War monuments are neglected. Fortunately in Monson the community has chosen to maintain their memorial to their soldiers who fought. If you get a chance to drive through Central Massachusetts, this imposing monument is a must see. Monson is located in Southern Hampden County, half-way between Worcester and Springfield, just South of Palmer, Massachusetts.

Two Springfield Medal of Honor Recipients From The U.S.S Rhode Island

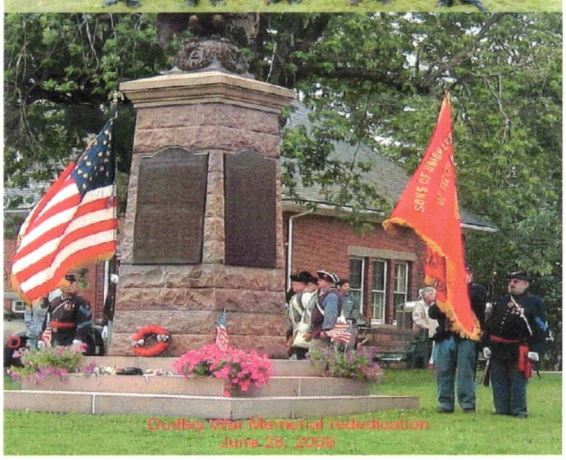
Luke M. Griswold, Served on board the U.S.S. Rhode Island which was engaged in saving the lives of the officers and crew of the Monitor, 30 December 1862. Participating in the hazardous rescue of the officers and crew of the sinking Monitor, Griswold, after rescuing several of the men, became separated in a heavy gale with other members of the cutter that had set out from the Rhode Island, and spent many hours in the small boat at the mercy of the weather and high seas until finally picked up by a schooner 50 miles east of Cape Hatteras.

Charles H. Foy, Served on board the U.S.S. Rhode Island during the action with Fort Fisher and the Federal Point batteries, 13 to 15 January 1865. Carrying out his duties courageously during the battle, Foy continued to be outstanding by his good conduct and faithful services throughout this engagement which resulted in a heavy casualty list when an attempt was made to storm Fort Fisher.

MONUMENT REDEDICATED IN DUDLEY

Dudley, MA: The Dudley Civil War Monument, located on the campus of Nichols College, was rededicated on June 28, 2009. The monument also commemorates the veterans of other wars, including the Revolutionary and Spanish American Wars. The ceremony was held across from the historic Black Tavern, and included a Grand Army of the Republic ritual for dedicating memorials. The ritual was performed by Members of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, commanded by Major Peter Rotando, with the assistance of Department Commander Kevin Tucker. It began with a symbolic "Vacant Chair" positioned in a solitary and conspicuous place on the field. A rifle is solemnly placed, leaning against the chair, and a kepi and various accoutrements of a long passed Civil War soldier, are placed on the empty seat. At the conclusion of the ritual, the items were slowly removed.

The program included a short parade, civil war period music and addresses by (then) SVCinC Leo Kennedy, Auxiliary Department President MaryCatherine Knight, local politicians and town historical society members. Following the ceremony, refreshments were served at the Black Tavern. Commander Tucker congratulated Brother Rotando and the S.V.R. on a job well done, and stated that it was the most memorable and touching ceremony he had ever seen.



LEFT: SVR Members prepare to present the Colors. (left to right) Peter Rotando, Bob Knight, PDC, Ed Norris, George Maple and Roy Henry.

RIGHT: Dept. Commander Kevin Tucker, (center) assists the SVR in performing the G.A.R. ritual as (then) SVCinC Leo Kennedy, (left) and Auxiliary Dept. President MaryCatherine Knight look on.

LEFT: PDC Bob Knight, (left) Ed Norris, (unseen, with National Colors) George Maple, (with Department Colors) and Bob Durcharme, (right) presenting the Colors at the Dudley Monument.

RIGHT: SVR 1st Military District Commander Peter Rotando, (right) and Roy Henry, (center) prepare the symbolic "Vacant Chair" as Ed Knight, (left) assists.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR VETERANS

On Sunday, August 23, Ryan Finnegan of Boy Scout Troop 109 presented his Eagle Service Project to the disable veterans that live at the Chelsea Soldiers Home. Ryan collected a large variety of items greatly needed by the patients, and was able to distribute over 170 individual personal bags containing tooth paste, tooth brushes, soap, floss, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, and other toiletries; over 300 pairs of new socks; 60 new big towels; 200 new face cloths and new hand towels; a variety of new hats; new shower thongs; new white, navy blue, and yellow tee shirts; over 200 books, and 170 VHS and DVD movies. At Department Commander Kevin Tucker's call for donations, Members from across the state donated a multitude of items to Ryan's cause. The Commander thanks all who participated in assisting with this good work.

"The response from the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, as well as other churches, synagogues, organizations and individuals within our community was overwhelming. Thank you again for your support and generosity to our Veterans and God bless you."

-Ryan Finnegan, Life Scout, Troop 109

PDC KNIGHT ELECTED N.E.R.A. COMMANDER

On July 18, 2009, the New England Regional Association of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War held its annual meeting at Weirs Beach in Laconia, New Hampshire, where Past Department of Massachusetts Commander Robert H. Knight was elected Regional Commander.

Brother Knight served as Department Commander from 2002 to 2004. Present at the meeting was our soon-to-be Commander-in-Chief Leo Kennedy of Department of Rhode Island.

The New England Regional Association is a fraternal association of SUVCW and Auxiliary Members from the six New England States. Any Brother from any one of those states is considered a Member of N.E.R.A. Meetings are held to discuss issues of mutual interest and to bring together Departments in the spirit of brotherhood and unity.

(Then) SVCinC Kennedy (left) stands next to Newly elected NERA Commander Bob Knight as other NERA Members look on, at the July N.E.R.A. meeting.

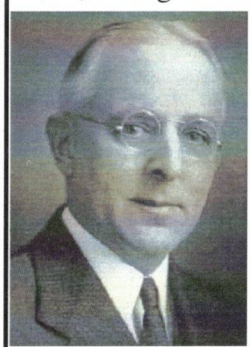
The next meeting of the New England Regional Association will take place on October 31st, at 10 AM, at The Best Western Merry Manor Inn, 700 Main St., South Portland, Maine. All are welcome.

Left: NERA Secretary Peter Whelpton, Chaplain Sandy Bates, Auxiliary President Theresa Doyle and Commander Bill Vieira participate in the opening prayer.

Right: Newly elected NERA Commander Bob Knight prepares to light the fuse for the annual salute at the conclusion of the meeting.

N.E.R.A. HISTORY

The New England Regional Association seems to have officially begun in Providence, Rhode Island, at a meeting at the Arsenal on Benefit Street. According to a document from Brother Bill Ryerson, PDC that meeting was held on September 28, 1935, and included Past Commander-in-Chief Frank Kirchgassner. SUVCW Leaders, including Past Commander-in-Chief Cleon Heald of New Hampshire, acting as delegates met with other New England Brothers to create N.E.R.A.



Frank Krichgassner
PCinC 1934-1935

This Association meets three times during the year, with the spring and fall meetings being held in various New England states on a rotating basis. The summer meeting is always held at Weirs Beach in Laconia, New Hampshire, where there is a large compound of buildings which once served as a vacation resort for Civil War Veterans.

Meetings by Veterans at this location this may have been where the idea for a regional association was formed.

It was on June 5, 1937 at Bosworth Hall in Portland, Maine that the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War joined the Association.

Cleon Heald
PCinC 1950-1951

Taunton Veteran's Memorial Markers:

Join the Magnificent Seven—Help honor Taunton's Veterans

General Darius N. Couch Camp No. 26 has initiated a project to raise funds for permanent markers for U.S. Veterans buried in Taunton, MA.

Donations of as little as a seven dollar ($7.00) donation, will help buy a marker.

Please send a check, payable to "**City of Taunton, VMM**", and send to:

Dept. of Veterans' Services
15 Summer Street
Taunton, MA 02780

For more information check out
http://www.taunton-ma.gov/Pages/TauntonMA_Veterans/vmm
Please email any inquiries to **vetsdirector@tmlp.net**

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